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It is noted that Claim 8 is withdrawn from further consideration until such time as an elected generic claim may be allowed.

In the Specification

Page 7, line 1, cancel "is", first occurrence.

In the Claims

Claim 1, line 2, change "a" to --at least one--,

Claim 1, line 9, change "sprocket" to --socket--.

Claim 3, line 3, before "means" insert --connector--.

Claim 4, line 2, change "asrticle" to --article--.

REMARKS

Applicants have made the required election, without traverse.

The typographical errors to the specification and Claim 4 noted by the Examiner have been corrected.

The rejection of Claims 3-7 as being unpatentable under 35 U.S.C. 112 is respectfully traversed. Claim 1 specifically calls for 'an exteriorly splined shaft ...' and "an article holder including an interiorly splined socket fitting over and cooperating with said exteriorly splined shaft". This combination of exteriorly splined shaft and cooperating interiorly splined socket inherently permits of selected positioning, i.e. angular positioning, of the socket relative to the shaft. The same recited structure also permits of angular repositioning of the socket relative to the shaft. This rotational relationship is described in the specification at page 2, lines 6-9 and page 3, lines 9-12. The splined relationship[between the shaft and socket is shown in the drawings and denoted by numerals 34 and 64, for example.

Contrary to the contentions of the Examiner the specification describes "bifurcated arms" and "straps" and these are shown by the drawings. FIG. 5, for example, shows gripper straps 96 and 98 that form bifurcated arms of an article holder block 70 and a strap 110. This structure is described in the specification at page 6.

Claim 1 has been amended to include "at least one" base unit. This clearly provides as basis for the language of Claim 3

The rejection of Claims 1 and 2 under 35 USC 102(b) as being anticipated by US Patent No. 4,348,080 to Wolker is also respectfully traversed. Contrary to the contentions of the Examiner, the fastener clip of the reference does not disclose either an exteriorly splined shaft or an interiorly threaded splined socket. The threads of the pin 9 are not splines. The fastening hole 3 does not contain splines. While the bore 3 fits over the threaded pin 9 the clip of the reference is not held against rotation with or held against rotation with the pin 9. Dictionary.com defines spline as "Any of a series of projections on a shaft that fit into slots on a corresponding shaft enabling both to rotate together. The groove or slot for such projection. "Applicants claimed cooperating splined components do not rotate together but, when assembled, in desired orientation, will operate as a single element. The Wolker patent does not disclose or suggest any structure such as is set forth in Applicants' Claims 1 and 2. The Wolker patent does not disclose structure that will permit the angular relationship of an article holder to be adjusted relative to the base unit to which it is secured via the article holder being positioned on the base unit at the desired position of an operator, as contended by the Examiner. The

angular relationship of the clip of Wolker may be adjustable relative to the pin 9, but it cannot be "secured" as contended by the Examiner.

The rejection of Claim 3 under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over the Wolker patent is traversed for the same reasons set forth above.

It is noted that Claims 4-7 are not rejected on art.

A clean copy of Claims 1-7, as amended, is attached hereto as Attachment A.

The specification has been corrected as required by the Examiner.

The election has been made, as required by the Examiner. It is noted that the Examiner considers Claim 1 to be generic. Applicant considers Claim 1 to be generic and allowable. Accordingly, it is submitted that full examination should be made of Claim 8.

The objection to Claim 4 has been corrected as suggested by the Examiner.

The rejections of Claims 3-7 under 35 USC 112 have been noted and the claims have been amended to overcome such rejections.

The rejections of Claims 1 and 2 under 35 USC 102(b) are traversed for the reasons set forth.

The rejection of Claim 3 under 35 USC 103(a) is traversed for the same reasons clearly establishing that the Wolker reference neither anticipates o makes obvious the structure claimed by applicant.

Reconsideration and allowance of all of the Claims, including claim 8, are requested.

Respectfully submitted.



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DATE

APPENDIX "A"

CLAIMS

1. A holding base system comprising
- at least one base unit including
- a platform;
- means for securing said platform to a surface;
- an exteriorly splined shaft extending from said platform; and
- an article holder including
- an interiorly splined socket fitting over and cooperating with said exteriorly splined shaft, and
- bifurcated arms extending from opposite sides of said socket.
2. A holding base system as in Claim 1, wherein
- said bifurcated arms each have at least one flexible vane extending inwardly towards an opposite one of said bifurcated arms and towards said socket.
3. A holding base system including
- a pair of base units;
- connector means interconnecting said pair of base units;
- an article holder secured to each of said base units; and
- means for adjusting the angular relationship of at least one of said article holders relative to the base unit to which

said base holder is secured.

4. A holding base system as in Claim 3, wherein

said article holders each includes article securement means,

and wherein

at least one of said article securement means includes strap

means to pass over an article to be secured and

to be fastened to said securement means.

5. A holding base system as in Claim 4, wherein

said article holders each includes article securement means;

and wherein

at least one of said article securement means includes a pair of

bifurcated arms,

6. A holding base system as in Claim 5, wherein

each of said article securement means includes a pair of

bifurcated arms.

7. A holding base system as in Claim 6, wherein

each of said bifurcated arms includes at least one flexible vane

extending towards the other of said bifurcated arms

and

towards the base unit to which the bifurcated arms are

secured.

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8. A holding base system comprising

a base unit including

a platform;

means for securing said platform to a surface;

an exteriorly splined shaft extending from said platform;

a cross-bar having an interiorly splined socket fitting over

and cooperating with said exteriorly splined shaft extending

from said platform and having at least one exteriorly

splined shaft extending therefrom; and

at least one article holder having an interiorly splined socket fitting

over and cooperating with at least one exteriorly splined

shaft extending from said cross-bar.

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